Co-operative Stores in South Arcot

9–10 a.m. * 1141 *Q.*—SRI M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Co-operative Stores registered in the South Arcot district till December 1953;

(*b*) the total amount of share capital collected;

(*c*) whether any stores have been ordered to be liquidated so far; and

(*d*) if so, why?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Number of Registered Co-operative Stores in South Arcot district as on 31st December 1953 was 66.

" (*b*) Rs. 3,24,020 as on 31st December 1953.

" (*c*) Yes. Twenty-eight stores have been ordered to be liquidated.

" (*d*) Liquidation was ordered on account of one or more of the following reasons, viz. :—

(1) Members were not evincing sufficient interest in the working of the Stores.

(2) The Board of Directors mismanaged the affairs of the Stores.

(3) The Stores were working at a loss consequent on decontrol."

SRI M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER :—" திண்டிவனம் 'ஸெண்டிரல்' ஸ்டோரிலிருந்து மில் **owner**-களிடத்தில் நெல் மூட்டைகளின் பாக்கித் தொகை பல லட்சக்கணக்கான ரூபாய் இதுவரை வசூல் ஆகாமலிருப்பதைப் பற்றி அரசாங்கத்துக்கு புகார் வந்திருந்தும்கூட, அந்தப் பணத்தை வசூலிக்க என்ன நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன என்று கேட்கிறேன் ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This is a general question. If the hon. Member wants information about any particular stores, he may put a separate question."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" All the three reasons given for liquidation of stores are inter-related and indicate failure on the part of the department to take care of the stores through proper guidance and supervision. Will the Government see that co-operative stores are not liquidated as far as possible? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Only stores which are not able to function properly are liquidated. Others are converted into other types of societies and the Central Co-operative Stores takes charge of the assets and liabilities of the primary stores that are closed and carry on the business."

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" How many of these liquidated stores are wholesale stores and how many of them are primary stores? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Most of them are primary stores."

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Sri B. K. NALLASWAMI :—" Some of these stores have accumulated large reserve funds as a result of the sale of controlled commodities during the War period, and they make it a point to get themselves liquidated so that the large reserve funds available may be divided among the members. Will the Government take steps to see that reserve funds are not allowed to be divided among the members but confiscated to the Government as the money accumulated in these reserve funds have been collected from the poor people?"

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" I do not think the reserve fund can be taken over by the Members. The whole question of these co-operative stores was discussed at a conference early in February and decisions were taken and these are now under the consideration of the Government."

Sri S. JAYARAMA REDDIYAR :—" இந்த கோவாபரேடிவ் ஸ்டோர்களுக்கு பெரும்பாலும் யுத்த காலத்தில் 'கண்ட்ரோல்' சாமான்களை விநியோகிப்பதற்கு உரிமை கொடுக்கப்பட்டதினால் லாபகரமாக இருந்த போதிலும், இப்போது மற்ற ஸ்தாபனங்களுடன் போட்டி போடமுடியாத நிலைமையிலிருப்பதாலும், நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ நல்லசாமி அவர்கள் சொன்னதுபோல், 'ரிசர்வ் நிதியை' சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கும் நிலையிலே, இந்த 'ஸ்டோர்கள்' தேவையில்லை என்ற முடிவுக்கு வருமுன்பு ஒரு கமிட்டியை நியமிப்பது பற்றி சர்க்கார் யோசிப்பார்களா ?"

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The Committee on Co-operation that has been recently constituted will go into this matter also."

Sri MAHAMED SALIH MARAIKAYAR :—" May I know whether it is permissible for the Stores to utilise the reserve fund for the purpose of education?"

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Let questions Nos. 1142, 1143 and 1144 be taken together."

Cattle Farm at Orathanad

* 1142 *Q.*—Sri K. R. SAMBANDAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Cattle Farm at Orathanad in Tanjore district has been started to improve the local breed Umblacheri or to improve some other breed?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Orathanad farm has been started for improving the Umbalachery breed of cattle. However, some animals of the Sindhi and Murrah breeds are also maintained in the farm to meet the demand for seed bulls."